GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:737
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2004
BAMBOO PLANTATION
Bhakta Shri Manoranjan

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware the fertility of soil has become a cause of concern for sustainable agricultural products in Andamans and Nicobar Islands including Bamboo plantation;

(b) if so, the details of existing Bamboo plants/productions in Andamans and Nicobar Islands and its export value during the last three years; and

(c) the locations where Bamboo plants can be grown and its products can be exported to generate employment and revenue to benefit the local farmers?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a): The Government has not received any report regarding depletion of soil fertility, which can be considered as a cause of concern for sustainable agriculture production including bamboo plantation in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

(b): There are five bamboo species which are native to the Andaman & Nicobar Islands and the estimated under bamboo in the Islands is around 25,000 hectares. The existing bamboos do not have any export potential or industrial use.

(c): In the Andaman & Nicobar Islands, bamboos are being planted under planting teak plantations, within natural forests and vacant degraded agricultural lands. The solid and thick walled bamboos which are being planted are useful for making handicrafts.